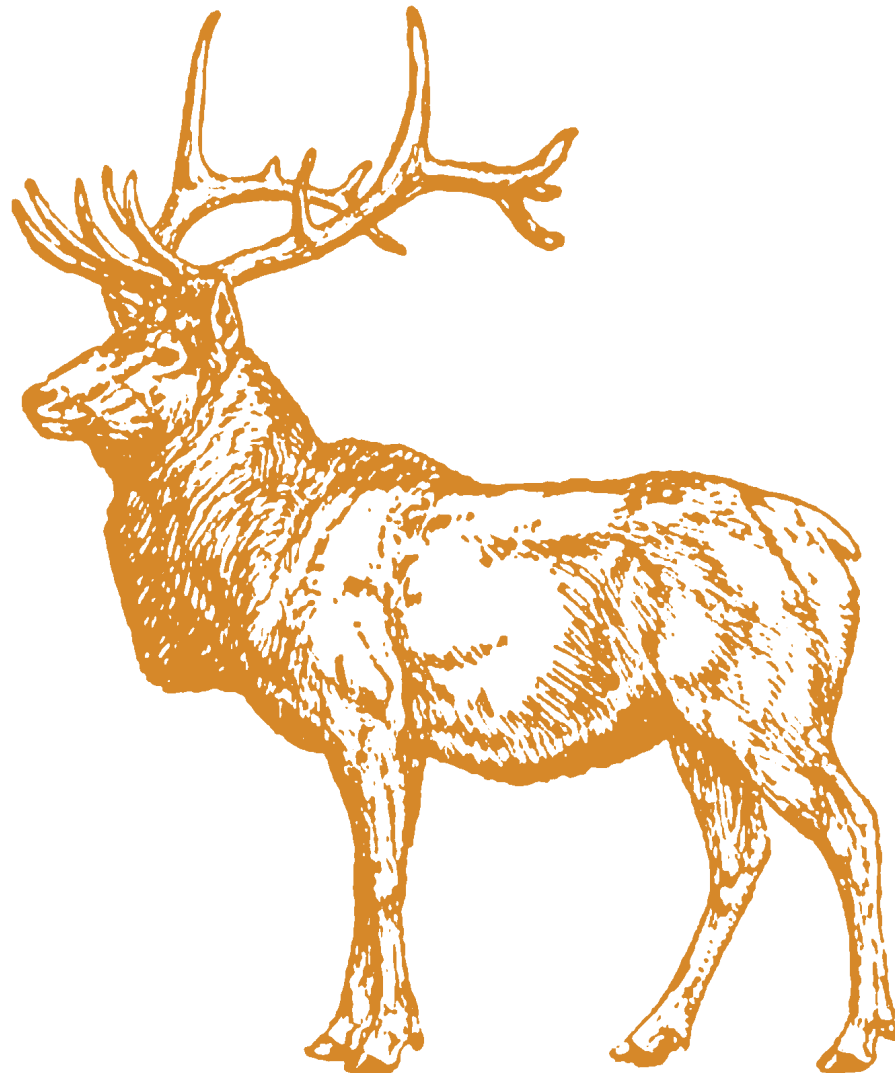


Valles Caldera National Preserve

Previously known as the Baca Ranch

Elk Hunt 2003

Your private land experience on the country's newest public land.



How to Enter the National Lottery to Hunt Elk on the Valles Caldera National Preserve

The preferred method to enter the National Lottery is through the VCNP website at www.vallescaldera.gov. If you do not have internet access, then send a completed lottery application form with payment to:

Valles Caldera National Preserve Bull Elk Hunts
6501 Fourth Street, Suite 1
Albuquerque, NM 87107
Toll free: 1-877-851-8946 or 1-877-276-9404

Photo copies of the application form will be accepted.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Here's What Hunters are Saying

THE BEST PUBLIC LAND HUNT

"I've hunted all over the U.S. and, in my opinion, Valles Caldera is the best public land hunt in the nation, based upon high quality and success rate."

— *George Taulman, United States Outfitters*

AN INCREDIBLE EXPERIENCE

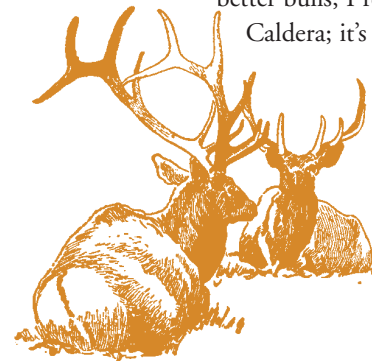
"My husband and I had an incredible experience at Valles Caldera. We saw so many high-quality trophy bulls, we still get excited looking at our photos and talking about it. It's a trip we'll always remember."

— *Linda Schott*

A GREAT SELF-GUIDED HUNT

"If you're looking for a great self-guided hunt with incredible lands, easy access and lots of 6-point or better bulls, I recommend Valles Caldera; it's at the top of my list."

— *Garth Carter, owner, national hunting publication*



Valles Caldera National Preserve 2003 Bull Elk Hunt Access Agreement Application Form

Name *(please print or type)* _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Hunt	Dates	Agreements Available	# of Tickets	Total
Archery	Sept. 9-18	16	_____ x \$25	\$ _____
Rifle	Oct. 4-8	12	_____ x \$25	\$ _____
Rifle	Oct. 11-15	12	_____ x \$25	\$ _____
Muzzleloader	Oct. 18-22	8	_____ x \$25	\$ _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Payment Information

☐ Check enclosed

☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ DISCOVER

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

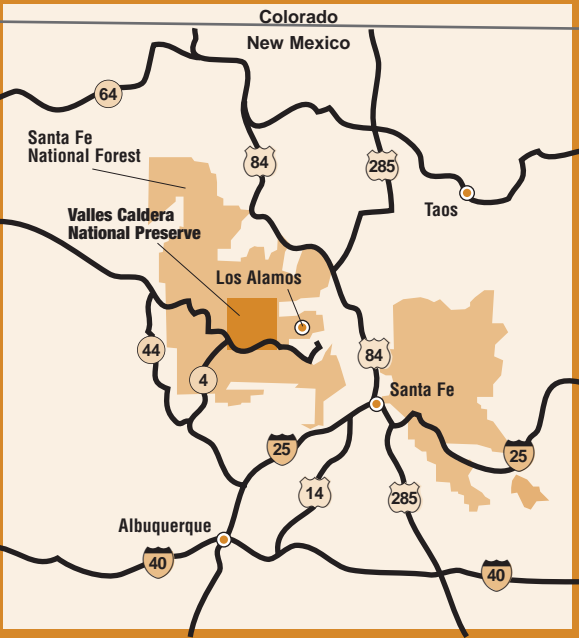


Valles Caldera
Public Lands Interpretive Association
6501 Fourth Street, Suite 1
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Valles Caldera National Preserve Elk Hunt 2003

In the fall of 2003, the Valles Caldera National Preserve (VCNP) will conduct the second elk hunt since government acquisition of this uniquely managed publicly owned land. The purposes of these hunts are to not only aid in management of herd size and quality, but to also provide a revenue source for management of this area and protect the extraordinary natural resources found on the Preserve.

The VCNP, previously called the Baca Ranch, is approximately 89,000 acres of high elevation forest and grasslands and is located in north central New Mexico. This magnificent piece of New Mexico is home to over 4,000 head of elk from April thru December.



Located 50 miles north of Albuquerque, New Mexico, the Valles Caldera National Preserve is surrounded by the Santa Fe National Forest.

Now is the time to apply for a premier bull elk hunt of your choice. Four lottery bull elk hunts are scheduled: One archery hunt, two rifle hunts and one muzzleloader hunt. Forty-eight bull elk access agreements are available for lottery ticket holders who apply through this National lottery. An application form for the lottery is included in this brochure and on the web site: www.vallescaldera.gov.

Lottery tickets will cost \$25 each and you may purchase as many as you like. Tickets will go on sale by January 30th. The deadline for application is June 30th. Each ticket provides one chance for one access agreement. Persons buying multiple tickets may win only one access agreement. Access agreements may be used by the recipient only and cannot be transferred. Lucky lottery ticket holders will be notified following the drawing results. Purchase of a lottery ticket(s) will not affect your eligibility in the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish public drawing; however, during a license year, an individual cannot have more than one New Mexico elk license. For more details concerning the rules and eligibility for this lottery, please visit our website.

What is the Purpose of the VCNP?

The “Valles Caldera Preservation Act” (P.L. 106-248) designated these spectacular lands as a national preserve and outlined how they will be managed. The Act states that the preserve is established to: “...*protect and preserve the scientific, scenic, geologic, watershed, fish, wildlife, historic, cultural and recreation values of the Preserve, and to provide for multiple use and sustained yield of renewable resources within the Preserve...*”

Another purpose of the Act is to: “...*establish a demonstration area for an experimental management regime adapted to this unique property, which incorporates elements of public and private administration in order to promote long-term financial sustainability...*” consistent with other listed purposes.

Rules for Elk Hunting on the VCNP

- A.** All hunters and visitors are required to attend VCNP hunt orientation prior to their assigned hunt.
- B.** Scouting is restricted to one day prior to the assigned hunt.
- C.** One guest or guide is allowed per licensed hunter.
- D.** Vehicle traffic is restricted to designated roads only. No All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) are allowed.
- E.** Hunters are restricted to hunting within one of ten specified subunits. Hunting subunits are assigned through a drawing at orientation.
- F.** Outfitting and guide services are available, at the hunter’s expense, from a list of outfitters who have applied for and received guide authorization from the VCNP.
- G.** Currently, camping for hunters is not available on the VCNP but is available in the surrounding areas of the Santa Fe National Forest.

H. Access agreement holders must purchase a state elk license from the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. No hunter without an access agreement and a state elk hunting license valid for Game Management Unit 6B is allowed on the Preserve.

Other rules and requirements will be provided during hunter orientation prior to the assigned hunt. For a complete description of rules and regulations pertaining to hunting on the VCNP, please visit our website.

Why Use an Auction and Lottery to Select Hunters on the VCNP?

This is an experiment. In keeping with a main principle of the Act “...*to promote long-term financial sustainability...*”, innovative means are being considered to generate revenue for the Preserve. An auction, lottery and use of a booking agent are being tried in 2003. Following this season, the success of this process will be evaluated and refined for subsequent years.

A second reason for an auction, lottery and use of a booking agent is to provide hunters of all means the opportunity for a chance to hunt on the VCNP, while still generating revenues to support the Preserve. Although few sportsmen will be able to afford the auctioned hunt or the use of a booking agent, virtually all would be able to afford the purchase of a \$25 lottery ticket for a chance at such an opportunity, particularly knowing that all funds generated will contribute to the management of the Preserve.

Other Elk Hunts on the VCNP...

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish will provide licenses for elk hunts on the VCNP. All of these hunts are for both mature bull and antlerless. For information concerning these hunts, please refer to the 2003 - 2004 New Mexico Big Game & Furbearer Rules & Information.

2002 Elk Hunt Results

Hunt Dates	Mature Bulls	Filled	Score 300+	Score 350+
Sept 10-20 Archery	20	18	10	1
Oct 5-9 Rifle	20	18	12	3
Oct 12-16 Rifle	20	20	10	0
Oct 19-23 Rifle	20	19	8	0
Oct 26-30 Muzzle	10	8	3	1
	90	83	43	5

Total take = 92%

All 90 hunters had opportunities and some elected not to take.

2002 Top Five Scores

Hunter	State	Score	Hunt
Dorothy	TX	369	Rifle
Jim	OK	367	Archery
Kurt	SD	365	Archery
John	LA	360	Rifle
Derek	WY	354	Muzzle